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SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Sir, what is the purpose of the scheme when it is a well-known fact that the cattle wealth of the country is dwindling? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The dwindling cattle wealth of the country is exactly the reason for this scheme."

* 554 Q.—

SRI A. RATNAM :—" I am not putting the question, Sir."

Exemption of hotels in Malabar from the payment of sales tax.

* 555 Q.—SRI K. MOIDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the owners of hotels and restaurants in Malabar district regarding the exemption of these hotels from the payment of sales tax; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The Government see no grounds for complying with the request for exemption."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, restaurants and hotels are dealing in perishable food articles and Government have already given up the levy of sales tax on perishable articles. In view of this, will the Government comply with the request of the restaurants and hotels to exempt them from the levy of sales tax? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" If the hotels, etc., are dealing in perishable articles, these articles would have already been exempted from the tax, Sir."

Supply of midday meals to fishermen children attending Government Fisheries Schools in South Kanara district.

* 556 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state— 11-10 a.m.

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to supply midday meals to fishermen children attending Government Fisheries Schools in South Kanara district; and

(b) if so, when the supply is likely to begin?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Government have no proposal at present for the supply of midday meals to fishermen children attending the Government Fisheries Schools in South Kanara district.

" (b) Does not arise."

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SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" As the fishermen in South Kanara, especially in Kasargod taluk, are very backward and financially poor, will the Government be pleased to supply midday meals to the children attending the Fisheries Schools? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Government cannot, as a matter of general policy, supply midday meals to all fishermen children. Whenever it is brought to the notice of the Government that distress is prevailing on account of the monsoon and poor catches of fish, the Government may consider the supply of midday meals for a temporary period."

SRI O. KORAN :—" May I know whether the Government have received any representation from Kasargod taluk requesting the supply of midday meals to the children attending the Fisheries Schools there? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir. The Government made an enquiry and found that the monsoon was over and that there was no need for supplying midday meals."

State Electricity Board.

* 557 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether generation and distribution of electricity are under the control of the State Electricity Board constituted under section 5 (1) of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" No State Electricity Board has been constituted in this State, as the Government are of the view that such a Board is neither desirable nor necessary in the present position of development of generation and distribution of electrical energy in this State."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, 1948-ம் வருஷத்திலேயே ஸ்டேட் எலெக்ட்ரிஸிடி போர்டை ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும், அந்த போர்டானது கன்ஸ்யூமர்களுக்கு ரிபேட் கொடுப்பது, இன்னும் பலவிதமான சௌகர்யங்களைச்செய்து கொடுப்பது ஆகிய காரியங்களைக் கவனித்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று சட்ட ரீதியாகவே சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படியிருந்தும் இதுவரையிலும் அந்த போர்டை ஏற்படுத்தாததற்குக் காரணங்கள் என்ன ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The Government feel that it is not desirable to constitute such a board now, as we have to complete some schemes and some further developments are to take place. The reasons are too many to be given by way of an answer to a supplementary question. If the hon. Member is interested, I shall be making a statement about this during the budget debate."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, ஒவ்வொரு ராஜ்ய சர்க்காரும் உடனடியாக இந்த ஸ்டேட் எலெக்ட்ரிஸிடி போர்டை ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்றும், இது சம்பந்தமாக மத்திய சர்க்கார் எல்லா ராஜ்ய சர்க்கார்களும் அடங்கிய மகா நாட்டைக் கூட்டப்போவதாகவும் சொல்லப்படுவது உண்மையா, இல்லையா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."